

Curriculum Vitae

Melanie Kampen (she/they)

Traditional territories of the Anishinaabe, Anishinawew, Assiniboine, Cree, Dakota, Dene, and Métis Nations
Winnipeg, MB
m.kampen@uwinnipeg.ca

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Theology

2019

Toronto School of Theology, Emmanuel College, Toronto, ON
Doctoral Supervisory Committee Chair: Dr. Marilyn Legge
Dissertation: "The Spectre of Reconciliation: Investigations in Mennonite Theology, Martyrdom, and Trauma."
Committee: Dr. Marilyn Legge (supervisor), Dr. Michael Bourgeois (internal), Dr. Pamela McCarroll (internal), Dr. Pamela Klassen (departmental), Dr. Wendy Fletcher (external)

M.T.S., Theological Studies

2014

University of Waterloo, Conrad Grebel University College, Waterloo, ON
Thesis: "Unsettling Theology: Decolonizing Western Interpretations of Original Sin."
Committee: Dr. Jeremy M. Bergen (advisor), Dr. Alicia Batten (internal), Dr. Terry LeBlanc (external)

B.A. Honours, Biblical and Theological Studies

2012

Canadian Mennonite University, Winnipeg, MB
Minors: Philosophy, Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies
Thesis: "Imagining the Ethics of Diaspora: Interferences in Theology, Sociology, and Philosophy."
Committee: Dr. Chris K. Huebner (advisor), Dr. Paul Doerksen (internal)

PUBLICATIONS

Book Contributions

2020. "On the Need for Critical Contextual and Trauma-Informed Methods in Mennonite Theology and Ethics." Book Chapter in *Recovering from the Anabaptist Vision*, pp. 93-102. Laura Schmidt Roberts, Paul Martens, and Myron A Penner, eds. T&T Clark, 2020

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

2019. “The Mennonite Peacemaker Myth: Reconciliation without Truth-telling?” *Conrad Grebel Review* 37.1: 43-61.

Book Reviews

Forthcoming. Review of *Unsettling Spirit: A Journey into Decolonization*. Denise M. Nadeau. *Conrad Grebel Review*.

2016. Review of *Coming Full Circle: Constructing Native Christian Theology*. Steven Charleston and Elaine A. Robinson. *Conrad Grebel Review* 35.1: 105-7.

2016. Review of *Decolonizing Epistemologies: Latina/o Theology and Philosophy*. Ada María Isasi-Díaz and Eduardo Mendieta. *Anabaptist Witness* 3.1: 144-5.

Articles in Magazines

2021. With Hyejung Jessie Yum. “Racism in Canada and the Church.” *Leader Magazine*.

2015. “Canadian Mennonites and the TRC.” *Leader Magazine* Spring 2015: 16-18.

PRESENTATIONS

Conferences

2022. “The Race to Reconciliation: Indian Residential Schools in Canada and the Limits of Mennonite Peace Theology.” Indigenous-Mennonite Encounter in Time and Place. Conrad Grebel University College. May.

2022. “Reporting on Sexual Violence in Mennonite Newspapers.” Sixth Annual CTMS Lecture. Centre for Transnational Mennonite Studies. May.

2020. “Roundtable: Recovering from the Anabaptist Vision.” Mennonite Scholars and Friends Session. American Academy of Religion. Online. November.

2018. “They Shout “Peace, Peace!” When there is No Peace: The Wounds of Colonialism and a Trauma Informed Theology.” Mennonite Historical Society, University of Winnipeg. Winnipeg, MB, November.

2017. “Decolonizing Mennonite Theological Methods.” Humanitas Anabaptist-Mennonite Centre Conference. Trinity Western University. Langley, BC, June.

2017. “The Spectre of Theocolonial Desire: Indian Residential Schools and the Construction of Mennonite Identity in Canada.” TGSA Graduate Student’s Conference. Toronto School of Theology. Toronto, ON, March.

2016. "The Martyr's Mirror: A Mennonite Fantasy of Theocolonial Desire." Mennonite Scholars and Friends Session. American Academy of Religion. San Antonio, TX, November.

2016. "Radical Discipleship or the Subjugation of Others? On the Violence of Mennonite Political Theology." Power in Perspective(s). Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre Graduate Students Conference. Goshen, IN, June.

2015. "The Politics of Repentance and the Risk of Reconciliation." Theologies of Reconciliation: *Les Sauvages et Le Sophistiqué*. North American Institute of Indigenous Theological Studies. Wheaton College. Wheaton, IL, June.

2015. "Empty Apologies: Settler Colonialism, Whiteness, and the Politics of Repentance." Possessive Investments: Systems of Power, Possibilities of Dissent. History Graduate Student Association. UCLA. Los Angeles, CA, March.

2014. "Redemption or Resurgence? Missionary Conquest and Native Resistance in North America." Revolutions. The Association of Graduate Liberal Studies Programs. The University of Pennsylvania and Villanova University. Philadelphia, PA, October.

2014. "Thinking Spatiality: Creation, Immanence, Identity." Wading-Deeper: Anabaptist-Mennonite Identities Engage Postmodernity. Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre Graduate Student Conference. Winnipeg, MB, May.

2014. "Eating from the Sacred Tree: Decolonizing Western Interpretations of Original Sin in Genesis 3." 2014 Upper Midwest Regional AAR/SBL Meeting. St. Paul, MN, April.

2013. "Heresiology, Epistemological Violence, and cross-cultural Christianity: what happens to theology when evangelism works?" Religion, Authority, and the State: From Constantine to the Secular and Beyond. Ecclesiological Investigations Conference. Belgrade, Serbia, June.

Invited Talks

Academic

2022. "Mennonites and Indian Residential Schools in Canada." Guest Lecture in Introduction to the Study of Religion. Toronto Metropolitan University. March.

2021. "Mennonite Involvement in Indian Residential Schools in Canada." Interviewed by Sarah Deckert. Canadian Mennonite University. October.

2021. "Mennonites and Decolonization in Canada." Guest Lecture in Indigeneity and Christianity. Canadian Mennonite University. Winnipeg, MB. March.

2021. "Mennonite and Indian Residential Schools in Canada." Guest Lecture in Introduction to the Study of Religion. Toronto Metropolitan University. March.

2021. "Empty Apologies: Settler Colonialism, Whiteness, and the Politics of Repentance." Canadian Mennonite University. March.

2020. "Mennonites, Indian Residential Schools, and Critical Contextual Theology." Guest Lecture in Anabaptist Political Theology. Canadian Mennonite University. Winnipeg, MB. December.

2019. "Mapping Social Power." Guest Lecture in Introduction to Sociological and Anthropological Perspectives. Canadian Mennonite University. Winnipeg, MB, November.

2016. "The Specter of Truth and Reconciliation: Bio-Disciplinary Power and the Construction of Mennonite Identity through Poplar Hill Residential School." Toronto Mennonite Theological Center, Scholars Forum. Toronto, ON, October.

2015. "If God is White then White is God: The Allegorical and Analogical Structures of Theocolonial Desire." Toronto Mennonite Theological Center, Scholars Forum. Toronto, ON, April.

2014. "Mennonite Theology and Decolonization." Guest Lecture: Mennonite Literature and Theology. Canadian Mennonite University. Winnipeg, MB, November.

ACADEMIC WORK

July 2021 - Plett Foundation Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Centre for Transnational Mennonite Studies and the University of Winnipeg

Oct. 2019 - Faculty Fellow in Social Sciences, Canadian Mennonite University
June 2022

Jan. 2022 - Faculty on Record for BTS-5940 Independent Study: Mennonite Involvement in Day Schools in Manitoba, Canadian Mennonite University
April 2022

Winter 2021 Contract Academic Staff, HIST 2132 History of Peace and Nonviolence
Department of History, University of Winnipeg

July 2020 - Senior Research Assistant to Dr. Aileen Friesen, Mennonite Studies
Jan. 2021 Department, University of Winnipeg

Winter 2018 Research Fellowship with Dr. Marilyn Legge, Emmanuel College
Research, syllabus and course design

Fall 2017 Research Fellowship with Dr. Marilyn Legge, Emmanuel College
TA Course: “Christian Ethics in Context” (syllabus and course design, grading, teaching, mentoring students)

Winter & Spring 2017 Research Fellowship with Dr. Marilyn Legge, Emmanuel College
Research, syllabus and course design, grading

Fall 2016 Research Fellowship with Dr. Marilyn Legge, Emmanuel College
TA Course: “Christian Ethics in Context” (syllabus and course design, grading, teaching, mentoring students)

Winter 2016 Research Fellowship with Dr. Marilyn Legge, Emmanuel College
Research for Dr. Legge during her Sabbatical

Fall 2015 Research Fellowship with Dr. Marilyn Legge, Emmanuel College
TA Course: “Christian Ethics in Context” (syllabus and course design, grading, teaching, mentoring students)

Fall 2013 Marker for Dr. Paul Doerksen, Canadian Mennonite University
Courses: “Mennonite Literature and Theology” &
“Introduction to Christianity”

Winter 2013 Marker for Dr. Troy Osborne, University of Waterloo
Course: “History of Western Civilization”

Winter 2012 Marker for Dr. Paul Doerksen, Canadian Mennonite University
Course: “Introduction to Christianity”

Fall 2011 Marker for Dr. Chris K. Huebner, Canadian Mennonite University
Course: “Introduction to Christianity”

ACADEMIC SERVICE

2016 – 2017 Student Representative
Canadian Theological Society

2016 – 2017 VP Conferences
Toronto Graduate Studies Association
Toronto School of Theology

2015 – 2016 Planning Committee
Graduate Studies Conference
Toronto Mennonite Theological Center

2014 – 2015 Interchurch Council on Hydropower
Winnipeg, MB

2011 – 2012	Planning Committee Interfaith Youth Conference Islamic Social Services Association and Canadian Muslim Leadership Institute Winnipeg, MB
2011 – 2012	Mennonite/Catholic Interfaith Dialogue Winnipeg, MB

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS ---

Plett Post Doctoral Fellowship	2021-2022
SSHRC Doctoral Scholarship Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada	2018-2019
The John W. Billes Fund Emmanuel College, Toronto School of Theology	2018-2019
Gordon Farquharson Scholarship Toronto School of Theology Board of Trustees	2016-2017
Ontario Graduate Scholarship University of Toronto and the Province of Ontario	2016-2017
Billes Advanced Degree Fund Emmanuel College, Toronto School of Theology	2015-2016
Bloor Lands Scholarship Emmanuel College, Toronto School of Theology	2015-2016
Dr. Peter Douglas Brown Graduate Studies Scholarship Westgate Mennonite Collegiate and Dr. P. Douglas Brown	2015-2016
Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship (CGS) Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)	2013-2014
President's Graduate Scholarship University of Waterloo	2013-2014
Conrad Grebel Graduate Award Conrad Grebel University College (University of Waterloo)	2012-2014
Academic Excellence Scholarship Canadian Mennonite University	2011-2012

Academic Entrance Scholarship Canadian Mennonite University	2007-2008
Henning Loewen Scholarship Westgate Mennonite Collegiate	2007-2008
Deutsches Sprachdiplom II Zentralstelle für das Auslandsschulwesen Cologne, Germany	2007

ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS ---

Canadian Theological Society (2016 – 2017)
Toronto Mennonite Theological Center (2015 – present)
Critical Ethnic Studies Association (2015 – present)
American Academy of Religion (2012 – 2016)
Mennonite Church Canada (2006 – present)
Mennonite Church Manitoba (2006 – present)

LANGUAGES ---

German (Proficient in reading, writing, conversation, translation, including Gothic script)
Low-German (Chortiza dialect, proficient in conversation, intermediate reading/writing)
Spanish (Reading)

TRAINING ---

Mental Health First Aid (2015)
ASIST – Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (2015)